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WITH the greateſt deference the firſt number of the POLITICAL INTELLIGENCER is laid before the publick, on whoſe ſmiles we found our hopes of patronage, and expect ſo laudable an undertaking will meet with encouragement tantamount to it's merit. Too much puffing is frequently, on this occaſion, made uſe of by publiſhers; but when the editors ſhall ceaſe to merit applauſe, they will no longer wiſh the favour of the publick extended to them. Neither diligence nor labour ſhall be wanting to render this paper a uſeful repoſitory of knowledge, humour and entertainment, while vice, the bane of ſociety, with it's concomitant attendants, though cloathed with the garb of authority, will be branded with every mark of infamy. In a word, whatever has a tendency to expand the mind, embelliſh the underſtanding or fan the ſacred flame of freedom, will be proſecuted with indefatigable zeal; and every branch of literature ranſacked to enlighten the underſtanding, and enlarge the faculties of the human mind.

In the courſe of this publication, a corner will be devoted to the treaſure of thoſe in the poetic line, whoſe correſpondence, together with thoſe in the proſaic walk, is earneſtly requeſted.

S. KOLLOCK,

S. ARNETT.

New-Brunſwick, Oct. 14, 1783.

LONDON, *Auguſt* 7.

THE Dutch having ſecretly diſpatched a force to the Eaſt-Indies, by the ſpirited remonſtrances of adminiſtration, they have not only diſcovered the force, but the intention: The ſquadron which had been magnified as if conſiſting of five or ſix ſail of the line, conſiſts of but five ſail in the whole, viz. Hercules, 60 guns; Princeſs Louiſa, 54; Centaur, 40; Spion, 28; and Verden cutter, 16 guns. They are bound to the Cape of Good Hope, for which place they have troops on board, in order to replace the French ſoldiers, which are to come away immediately. The Dutch ſquadron are then to cruiſe in the Oriental ſeas, for the purpoſe of protecting their trade, which ſince the war has been much obſtructed by the Indian pirates, who have taken five or ſix of their moſt valuable ſhips, and ſent them into different ports of China and Japan; to which places the Dutch fleet are to repair for the purpoſe of either demanding reſtitution, or to puniſh the offenders, who are a ſpecies of pirates more common than ever in India, and who are compoſed of different ſpecies of the Oriental tribes, that are marauders, and depredate on moſt of the veſſels from China, particularly the ſmall ſhips, which the Dutch employ between Batavia and China, which are not of force ſufficient to repel theſe invaders, who are in veſſels, mounting from 12 to 18 guns each, and well fitted.

According to authentic advices from France the French are fitting at Breſt thirteen ſhips of war, for what purpoſe is not ſo eaſy to aſcertain; but as government are reſolved not to be behind hand with any who come under the deſcription of our natural enemies, they are accordingly fitting out ten ſhips of the line, and four frigates, independent of the guardſhips, which are all ordered to be kept in condition for immediate ſervice, if occaſion requires. The guardſhips at the ſeveral ports amount to 16 ſail of the line, and ſeven ſail more that are fitting for the ſame ſervice.

Yeſterday an expreſs was ſent off to Portſmouth to recommiſſion a large fleet of the line and to have them fitted out with the greateſt expedition. Various are the conjectures for the cauſe of this reſolution of the cabinet. Some ſay the French abſolutely refuſe to reſtore our Weſt-India iſlands; others ſay, we muſt have a formidable fleet to be on a footing with France, who means to take a part in the war between the Turks and Ruſſians.

The various, abſurd and contradictory ſtories about the nature of the difficulties which have occurred in the definitive treaties, ought not to be attended to by the public. At one time it is Gibraltar that ſtands in the way—at another the logwood trade on the coaſt of Honduras—now it is the American negroes—and then the carrying trade; and all theſe ſtories have their currency and credit, and are brought up in ſucceſſion by thoſe perſons who have an intereſt in catering for the public. It ſhould be remembered that the ſecrets of the negociation are to be kept upon oath, and all that can be collected muſt be drawn from the indications which they cannot conceal. The only indication then, which we have had of the nature of the difficulty, is the memorial avowedly preſented to the Britiſh court by the French miniſters, declaring the intentions of the Grand Monarque to ſupport the confederated powers in their determination to open the trade of Europe. This is a meaſure ſo hoſtile to the intereſts of Britain, that our miniſters have naturally made a ſtand againſt it, and here it is moſt likely we may diſcover the whole of the impediment to the ſigning of the treaties; but this is intitled to no other appellation than that of a rational conjecture.

According to letters from Peterſburgh through Holland, matters were certainly in a ſtate of accommodation between Ruſſia and the Ottoman Porte; notwithſtanding which Admiral Tiſchigoſte's ſquadron, conſiſting of twelve ſail of the line and three frigates, had actually ſailed from Cronſtadt the 13th inſtant, in their way to the Mediterranean. They are to viſit the ports of England, France, Portugal, Spain, &c. viz. Portſmouth, Cadiz, Liſbon, Toulon, &c. The admiral has very particular inſtructions relative to his mode of proceedings when he enters the Mediterranean, where he is to cruiſe as high as the iſland of Cyprus. The Ruſſian fleet that is now in the Mediterranean will return about October, if peace continues; but if there ſhould be a rupture between the Turks and the Ruſſians that ſquadron will continue in addition to that of Admiral Tiſchigoſte's till a further reinforcement can be ſent him, as the Turks have ſeventeen ſail, from 50 to 70 guns, at Conſtantinople, and are very haſtily equipping ſeveral more at the other ports in the ſtreights of the Dardanelles, where their galley fleet is ſo very numerous, that this laſt is computed at forty veſſels, from 24 to 12 guns each, chiefly deſigned for guarding the coaſt; but very capable of other ſervices, eſpecially in time of hoſtilities.

WHITEHALL, *July* 22. Advices have been received by the Fox packet, which ſailed from Bengal the 17th of February laſt, that peace had been concluded with the Marattas; that Hyder Ally died in the month of December laſt; and that his ſucceſſor Tippoo Saib appeared more pacifically inclined towards the Engliſh than his father, having permitted ſuch as were priſoners in the towns taken by him to have a free communication with the Preſidency at Madras, to be better ſupplied with neceſſaries, and to have egreſs and regreſs: That M. Suffrein after watering his fleet at Achin, had croſſed over the Bay of Bengal to Ganjam with nine ſail of the line and two frigates, where he captured the Coventry frigate and the Blandford Eaſt-Indiaman: That the Medea frigate had retaken the Chacer ſloop of war, on her way from Trincomale with diſpatches from M. Buſſy to M. Suffrein, by which it appeared, that the reſt of the French fleet was in great diſtreſs from a violent dyſentery, having loſt a number of men, and was unable to join M. Suffrein as ſoon as intended; and that M. Suffrein remained only a few days on the coaſt, and it was ſuppoſed had returned to Trincomale, leaving two frigates to cruiſe from Ganjam to Ballaſore Road, which had captured a number of veſſels bound to Madras with rice.

Paris, July 14. Though ſome difficulties ſeem to prolong the negociations of peace, ſome perſons who aſſert that they are well informed of what paſſes in the cabinets on that ſubject, pretend that the definitive treaty will be ſigned before the end of this month.

Paris, July 18. It is given out here, that a ſhock of an earthquake has been felt at the Antilles as diſaſtrous as that in 1770.

We are aſſured that the Duke of Richmond lately arrived at Paris, is employed with the Count de Vergennes in ſettling the definitive treaty.

Warſaw, July 2. Letters from Peterſburgh mention, that M. de Samoiſowitz hath inoculated ſeveral perſons for the plague, and that this operation, however ſingular it may appear, hath had the deſired ſucceſs. It is added, that he cured himſelf by rubbing the part affected with ſome pieces of ice. If freſh experiments juſtify the ſucceſs attributed to it, this antidote may ſtop the progreſs of the contagion of this terrible calamity.

Altena, July 17. All Europe ſeems now to fix its views on the States of America. All commercial nations vie with each other in forming connections with them. The emigrations there from all parts of Europe are very conſiderable, and augment daily; ſo that this riſing Republic, ſituated on a ſoil favourable in all reſpects, will, according to all appearance, ſoon become one of the beſt peopled, and moſt flouriſhing countries of the globe. Already the arts and trades are in full vigour by the number of artiſts and workmen who continually flock there from all parts.

Franckfort, July 15. The opening of the campaign between Ruſſia and the Porte is not very remote, if it is true that the Empreſs has given the Porte only to the middle of the month for a final anſwer to her demands. In the mean time, the van of the Ruſſian army is, it is ſaid encamped on the borders of the Nieper, and General Romanzow's head quarters are at Kiow.

They write from Thorn, that after the review at Etargard was finiſhed, 50,000 Pruſſian troops were ſtationed in Weſt Pruſſia, along the frontiers.